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No. 14

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 28, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RANDY HULTGREN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

As You make available to Your people the grace and knowledge to meet the needs of the day, we pray that Your spirit will be upon the Members of this people's House, giving them the richness of Your wisdom.

Bless the members of the minority party as they gather these next days. May they, with those who accompany them, travel safely and meet in peace.

Bless also the majority party as they return to their constituencies. Give them hearts and ears to listen well to all those whom they represent.

May the power of Your truth and our faith in Your providence give them all the confidence they must have to do the good work required for service to our Nation.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BENISHEK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RESTORING LOCAL CONTROL OVER EDUCATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the quality of our children's education is too important to rely on a one-size-fits-all approach.

I have introduced the Local Control of Education Act to return control of education to the States by prohibiting the Federal Government from using grants or waivers to coerce States into adopting the Common Core State Standards. I am grateful to work with Senator DAVID VITTER of Louisiana on these efforts with companion legislation.

South Carolina-elected school board members and administrators, such as Lexington District Two Superintendent Venus Holland, working to-

gether with teachers and parents—such as Kathy Maness of the Palmetto State Teachers Association—are best suited to promote our State's education system. I have full faith in State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman, who is continuing the effort for education excellence as supported by her predecessor, Dr. Mick Zais.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

CONGRATULATING MADISON KEYS

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rock Island's own Madison Keys on her outstanding performance at the Australian Open.

Madison is the daughter of attorneys Christine and Rick Keys of Rock Island, Illinois, and at the close of this tournament, Madison will be the world's highest ranking teenage tennis player. The 19-year-old defeated the reigning Wimbledon champion, Petra Kvitova, in the third round of the tournament. And yesterday, she played in the quarterfinals against the woman who inspired her to play tennis, Venus Williams—and Madison won.

Madison remembers watching Wimbledon when she was just 4 years old and being inspired to play tennis when she saw Venus' fancy tennis dress. Last night's match in a way represents the passing of the torch between generations on the U.S. women's tennis team as Madison now advances to the next round. Tomorrow she plays Serena Williams.

I am confident Madison has a long tennis career in front of her, and I look forward to seeing where she goes. I hope that, just as Venus Williams inspired her, she inspires another generation of young girls to get involved in sports and follow their dreams.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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